

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05  
CIAE-00 PRS-01 L-01 SP-02 H-01 DHA-02 PM-03  
DODE-00 /047 W  
-----270037Z 068522 /64

R 262346Z MAY 77  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3777  
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 1681

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS:PFOR, PINT, UN, CI, US  
SUBJ: MEETING WITH FORMER CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTER ALMEYDA;  
OTHER ALMEYDA ACTIVITIES

REF: A. USUN 1451; B. TYSON-SCHIELE TELECONS OF MAY 17, 20  
AND 21

1. SUMMARY: ALMEYDA IS OPTIMISTIC THAT CHANGE IN POLITICAL  
SITUATION IN CHILE IS POSSIBLE. HE INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO  
WORK WITH CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (CD), CLAIMED EXTENSIVE CONTACTS  
WITH THEM AND HOPES TO ESTABLISH REGULAR CONTACTS WITH USG.  
CONTENT OF LETTER TO PRESIDENT (REFTEL) APPARENTLY DISTRIBUTED  
ON MAY 25 TO SOME NEWSMEN. ALMEYDA PLANS EXTENSIVE  
CONTACTS WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS AND CLAIMS TO HAVE  
APPOINTMENT WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER FOR FRIDAY  
AFTERNOON. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING REF TELECONS, LOWENSTEIN AND MISOFF SPENT AN  
HOUR ON MAY 24 WITH CLODOMIRO ALYEYDA (FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER  
OF CHILE AND LEADER IN EXILE OF POPULAR UNITY U.L.) , LUIS  
MAIRA (FORMER FEDERAL DEPUTY AND IN EXILE I MEXICO  
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CITY), AND JAIME BARRIOS (DIRECTOR OF CHILE DEMOCTATICO  
OFFICE IN NYC).

3. THE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THEIR VISITS WITH UN-  
UNSYG BUFFUM AND UN-SYG WALDHEIM ON MAY 24, AND SAID THEY  
WANT TO URGE "FULL COMPLIANCE" WITH UN RESOLUTIONS  
CONCERNING CHILE, AND IN MAINTAINING THE WORK OF THE AD

HOC SPECIAL WORKING GROUP ON CHILE. THEY OFFERED NO DETAILS OF THE RESPONSES, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT BOTH WERE SUPPORTIVE AND POSITIVE.

4. THEY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE "WORDS AND DEEDS" OF PRESIDENT CARTER, US SUPPORT FOR THE RESOLUTIONS ON CHILE, AND ASKED WHAT THE US INTENDED TO DO TO IMPLEMENT ITS VOTE FOR THE RESOLUTIONS. THEY SAID PRESIDENT CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS APPROACH HAD RADICALLY CHANGED THE US IMAGE IN LATIN AMERICA.

5. MAIRA SAID THAT REPRESSION CONTINUES ESPECIALLY AGAINST THE SOCIALIST PARTY SINCE APRIL 30 AND NOTED THAT CENSORSHIP AND GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF THE PRESS IS INCREASING, THERE ARE MORE RESTRICTIONS AGAINST WORKING CLASS GROUPS, AND THAT TORTURE CONTINUES. THEY ARGUED THAT THE MAJOR FOCUS OF US EFFORTS OUGHT TO BE IN THE AREA OF PRESSING FOR SOME ACCOUNTING OF "DESAPARECIDOS" (MISSING PERSONS). THEY ARGUED THAT ALL THE EVENTS OF THIS YEAR SHOW THAT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO "DESTROY THE FOUNDATIONS OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY IN CHILE," AND SEES ITSELF AS A PERMANENT "FASCIST" STATE. THEY SAID IT IS POSSIBLE THAT PINOCHET WILL BE REPLACED BY THE ARMY SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE IN AN ATTEMPT TO PLACATE THE US. THEY ARGUED THAT THERE ARE STRONG GROUPS (UNSPECIFIED) IN THIS COUNTRY WHO, UNDER THE GUISE OF "SEEKING REFORM" IN CHILE, WANT THE PRESENT REGIME TO CONTINUE.

6. THEY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION

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AT THE OAS MEETING IN GRENADA WOULD RAISE THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND ESPECIALLY DESAPARECIDOS, AND WOULD SEEK A FULL DEBATE OF THE REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

7. ALMEYDA SAID HE IS PLEASED WITH THE CONTACTS HE HAS HAD SO FAR, HE HOPES TO SEE SENATOR KENNEDY, AND HE APPEARED PLEASED AT THE PROSPECT OF SEEING A HIGH DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL. HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN REGULAR CONTACTS WITH THE USG. ALMEYDA SAID HE BELIEVED THAT "THIS BEGINNING OF A NEW DIALOGUE" WITH US OFFICIAL WOULD BE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL.

8. ALMEYDA SAID CD LEADERS, IN A MEETING LAST WEEK IN NYC, HAD REAFFIRMED THEIR POSITION THAT THE CD IS THE ONLY WAY TO MOVE BACK TO A DEMOCRATIC CHILE, AND ONCE AGAIN REJECTED U.P. OVERTURES FOR A UNITED OPPOSITION FRONT. ALMEYDA SAID THE U.P. IS EAGER TO WORK WITH THE CD, AND HAS MANY CD ALLIES. ALMEYDA SUGGESTED THE DESIRABILITY OF A JOINT MANIFESTO, CALLING FOR A RETURN TO FREE ELECTIONS, A

MULTI-PARTY SYSTEM, AND LEGAL PROCESSES -- NOT PURGES --  
AGAINST THE TORTURERS, ETC. ALMEYDA SEEMS TO BELIEVE THAT  
AN OPEN ALIANCE WITH THE CD IS NECESSARY AND INEVITABLE  
AND CAN BE ACHIEVED SOON. THE U.P. LEADERS THEMSELVES  
SEE FREI AS THE BIG PROBLEM (HOWEVER, A GOOD  
DEAL OF THE OLD BITTERNESS TOWARDS FREI SEEMS TO HAVE  
DISSIPATED).

9. COMMENT: DURING MEETING WITH MISOFF, ALMEYDA WAS VERY  
CORDIAL AND DID NOT ADOPT THE DEMANDING TONE OF HIS LETTER  
TO THE PRESIDENT. HE OBVIOUSLY BELIEVES THAT FUTURE  
CONTACTS WILL BE IMPORTANT AND USEFUL AND THAT THE  
PRESIDENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES ARE HAVING AN  
IMPORTANT EFFECT IN CHILE. ALMEYDA DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH  
BUT SEEMS TO UNDERSTAND SOME ENGLISH. A TRANSLATOR WOULD  
PROBABLY BE USEFUL FOR ANY MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT.  
DURING HIS SPEECH AT THE CENTER FOR INTER-AMERICAN  
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RELATIONS (BELOW), ALMEYDA MADE NO REMARKS CRITICAL OF  
THE USG. END COMMENT.

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05  
CIAE-00 PRS-01 L-01 SP-02 H-01 DHA-02 PM-03  
DODE-00 /047 W  
-----270036Z 068862 /64

R 262346Z MAY 77  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 1681

LIMDIS

10. PRESS INQUIRY. MISSION PRESS OFFICE WAS QUERIED ON MAY  
25 BY NY TIMES CORRESPONDENT KITTY TELTSCH ABOUT "PUBLIC

LETTER SENT BY ALMEYDA TO THE PRESIDENT." MISOFF  
ASKED PRESS OFFICE TO REPLY THAT A LETTER ADDRESSED TO  
THE PRESIDENT HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY MISSION AND FORWARDED TO THE  
DEPARTMENT SOME DAYS AGO. FURTHERMORE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT  
ALMEYDA LUNCED WITH JOURNALISTS FROM SEVERAL EUROPEAN  
PAPERS, INCLUDING THE "LONDON TIMES."

11. ALMEYDA SPEECH. IN A SPEECH TO A SMALL GROUP AT THE  
CENTER FOR INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS ON MAY 25, ALMEYDA  
SAID THAT THERE IS WIDESPREAD OPPOSITION IN CHILE TO THE  
JUNTA AND DESCRIBED THE JUNTA'S SITUATION AS PRECARIOUS.  
HE DESCRIBED THE LABOR MOVEMENT AND THE CHURCH AS MAIN-  
STAYS OF THE OPPOSITION. ONLY 20 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION  
ACTUALLY SUPPORT THE JUNTA. ALMEYDA CONTINUED THAT US POLICY  
IS IMPORTANT IN ASSISTING CHILE TO RETURN TO DEMOCRACY BUT  
IS NOT THE DETERMINING FACTOR.

12. ALMEYDA'S SCHEDULE. ON MAY 25, BARRIOS TOLD US  
ALMEYDA HAS AN APPOINTMENT WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY  
CHRISTOPHER ON FRIDAY, APPOINTMENTS WITH KENNEDY, BADILLO  
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AND HARKIN, AND A PROBABLE APPOINTMENT WITH CRANSTON,  
THURSDAY AFTERNOON. ALMEYDA IS ALSO VERY INTERESTED IN  
SEEING AMB YOUNG IN WASHINGTON FRIDAY OR SATURDAY. ALMEYDA  
IS DUE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

13. BARRIOS ALSO INDICATED THAT ALMEYDA HAD DISTRIBUTED  
COPIES OF LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT TO SOME OF THE NEWSPAPER  
EDITORIAL WRITERS WITH WHOM HE LUNCED YESTERDAY, INCLUDING  
THE "NY TIMES." WHEN QUERIED WHY HE DID NOT WAIT FOR A  
POSSIBLE RESPONSE, BARRIOS SAID THAT THE SITUATION WAS  
DEVELOPING SO RAPIDLY AND SO FAVORABLY THAT THE LETTER  
WAS ALREADY IN PART IRRELEVANT, BUT THAT THEY STILL HOPED  
FOR SOME RESPONSE. BARRIOS INDICATED THAT THERE WERE  
EXTENSIVE CONTACTS WITH THE CD ON WHAT TO DO IN CASE THE  
MILITARY GOVERNMENT FELL, BUT THAT THE CHRISTIAN  
DEMOCRATS DID NOT FEEL THAT THIS COULD BE MADE PUBLIC  
YET, AND WOULD PROBABLY DENY THE CONTACTS IN QUERIED.  
HE INDICATED THAT THE TWO PARTIES HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED  
IN SOME DETAIL THE POSSIBLE TRANSITION AND INSTITUTIONAL  
ARRANGEMENTS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, SHUM, CI, US, UN, (ALYEYDA, CLODOMIRO), (MAIRA, LUIS), (BARRIOS, JAIME)  
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